
LESSON 2

AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS

COMMAND AND CONTROL

The Navy and the Marines have never shone more brightly than this morning.

-- General Douglas MacArthur
15 September 1950

Amphibious warfare requires the closest practicable cooperation by all combatant services, both in planning and in execution and a command organization which definitely assigns responsibility for all major decisions throughout all stages of operation embarkation, overseas movement, beach assault, and subsequent support of forces ashore.

-- Admiral Henry K. Hewitt, USN

Introduction

Purpose	The principal objective of this lesson is for you to comprehend the elements, control agencies, and systems associated with amphibious operations.
Relationship to Other Instruction	<p>This lesson is relevant to</p> <p>wThe methods commanders use to control amphibious operations. This information is essential to understanding subsequent lessons in this course.</p> <p>wEarlier instruction provided in the MAGTF course. That instruction will help you during the <i>Operations Other Than War (OOTW)</i> (8809) course as you study the capabilities of amphibious forces.</p>
Study Time	This lesson, including the issues for consideration, will require about 4 hours of study.

Educational Objectives

Major Components	Identify the two major components of the Amphibious Tactical Air Control System (ATACS). [JPME Area 1(a)]
Elements of Amphibious Operations	Discuss the elements, control agencies, and systems associated with amphibious operations. [JPME Areas 2(a), 2(d), and 5(c)]
Amphibious Assault	Explain how control of air operations and supporting arms is phased ashore during an amphibious assault. [JPME Areas 2(a) and 2(d)]
Impact of Navy C41 Program	Discuss what future Navy C41 program will impact on amphibious command and control. [JPME Area 5(b)]
JPME Areas/ Objectives/Hours (accounting data)	1/a/0.5 2/a/1.0 2/d/0.5 5/b/0.5 5/c/0.5

Discussion

Command and Control

The key to success in amphibious operations is an effective, well-integrated, command and control system.

Landing force command and control agencies must effectively integrate the Amphibious Task Force's naval command and control agencies during initial landing operations. Then, they must be able to transfer command and control from the Navy to land based agencies when ground forces are ready for sustained operations ashore.

Responsibilities for Command and Control

The responsibilities for command and control vary between the Commander, Amphibious Task Force (CATF) and the Commander of the Landing Force (CLF) during different types of amphibious operations and within the different phases of an amphibious operation.

Planners need a solid foundation in this critical component of successful amphibious operations.

Amphibious Command

As the Marine Corps continues to implement concepts such as Operational Maneuver From the Sea (OMFTS) and Ship-to-Objective Maneuver (STOM), the need for a robust amphibious command and control system becomes even more important, due to the extended ranges of operations and dynamic decision processes envisioned within these concepts.

The impact on amphibious command and control techniques, processes, and capabilities is projected to be significant.

Impact

You, as a Marine officer, must have a firm understanding of today's amphibious command and control system and process to evaluate the impact on amphibious command and control that may occur as you study OMFTS and STOM later in this course.

Required Readings

Joint Pub Readings

Joint Pub 3-02.1, *Joint Doctrine for Landing Force Operations*, pp. II-1 to II-17, XVI-1 to XVI-8, XVII-6, XVII-10. Find this reading in the *Joint Pub Readings* Vol. II (8800), pp. 593 to 609, pp. 797 to 804, and p. 814.

wChapter II: This chapter describes the organizational arrangements unique to landing forces in amphibious operations, and the nature of command relationships necessary to ensure unity of command.

wChapter XVI: This chapter provides an overview of the assault phase of the amphibious operation, from its initial stages of preparatory fires and ship-to-shore movement, through the seizure of LF and ATF objectives, to consolidation of the beachhead and the initiation of the other tasks of the operation.

wChapter XVII: These pages cover command relationships.

FM/FMFRP Readings

FMFRP 5-61, *Multiservice Procedures for Integrated Combat Airspace Command and Control*, pp. 4-5 to 4-12. Find this reading in the *FM/FMFRP Readings* (8800), pp. 177 to 184. Although Air Force and Army units may participate; typically, Navy and Marine combat units execute amphibious operations. These units have their own aviation assets and C² to support airspace control in the amphibious objective area (AOA).

FMFM Readings

FMFM 1-7, *Supporting Arms in Amphibious Operations*, chapter 8, pp. 8-1 to 8-30. Find this reading in the *FMFM Readings* (8800), pp. 87 to 116. This chapter covers using supporting arms in amphibious operations.

Amphibious Operations Readings

"Copernicus: C4ISR for the 21st Century." *Surface Warfare*, July/August 1997, pp. 36-41. Find this reading in the *Amphibious Operations Readings*, Annex B, pp. B-3 to B-7. This reading covers the doctrine that is the Armed Forces road map for the future. The doctrine emphasizes information superiority and technological advancements designed to exploit and destroy the enemy's centers of gravity.

For Further Study

Supplemental Readings

The readings listed are **not** required. They are provided as recommended sources of additional information about topics in this lesson that may interest you. They will increase your knowledge and augment your understanding of this lesson.

wJoint Pub 3-04, *Doctrine for Joint Maritime Operations* (Air).

wJoint Pub 3-52, *Doctrine for Joint Airspace Control in the Combat Zone*.

wFMFM 1-7, *Supporting Arms in Amphibious Operations*.

wFMFM 1-8, *Ship-to-Shore Movement*.

wFMFM 4-3, *MAGTF Landing Support Operations*.

wNDP 1, *Naval Warfare*.

Issues for Consideration

Major Components	What are the two major components of the Amphibious Tactical Air Control System (ATACS)?
Command and Control	What command and control elements, agencies, and systems are employed during amphibious operations?
Amphibious Operations	Which components of the Amphibious Tactical Air Control System (ATACS) are used during the different types of amphibious operations?
Aviation Command and Control	What are the requirements for aviation command and control to be phased ashore during an amphibious assault?
Supporting Arms	What are the requirements for passage of control of supporting arms from ship-to-shore?
Navy C41 Program	What future Navy C41 program will impact on amphibious command and control?
